

The Cary Arboretum



of The New York Botanical Garden

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Programs and Tickets Ready for "Music at the Arboretum"

May, June, and July will be enlivened by "Music at the Arboretum," a series of four Sunday afternoon concerts by artists from the Hudson Valley Philharmonic performing out-of-doors in a secluded setting on the 2,000-acre grounds of the Arboretum.

The series will mark the first time that the Dutchess County-based orchestra performs at the Arboretum, and also marks the beginning of a series of cultural offerings by the Arboretum that will soon include regular art exhibits as well as musical recitals.

Concert tickets, on sale now, extend special discounts to members of Friends of the Cary Arboretum, and priority for Friends who subscribe to the series of four performances. Free tours of the solar-heated Plant Science Building before the concerts, and wine-and-cheese receptions afterwards to meet the performers, are included at no extra charge.

Announcements containing full program details have been mailed to all Arboretum members and to regular Philharmonic subscribers.

The Arboretum concerts begin with a gala inaugural performance by a chamber music orchestra on May 28, conducted by Imre Pallo, maestro of the Philharmonic. The

program features selections from classical and modern composers to harmonize with the setting where the concerts will take place, a grassy bowl framed by hemlock trees on the banks of a stream. The site is

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Arboretum Director Willard Payne swings antique cradle scythe to show conductor Imre Pallo how a field will be cleared for outdoor concerts.

Photo by Robin Parow



The "Spring Thing" Is Coming!

Please circle the date, Saturday, May 13th, on your calendar! It marks the red-letter day when the Arboretum will hold its annual Plant Clinic and Sale.

The Arboretum's Greenhouse, located on Route 82, will be open to the public between 10:00 A.M. and 3:00 P.M. Staff members and volunteers will be on hand for professional plant consultations, repotting, and the spraying of diseased plants.

Repotting (bring your own pot) will cost

\$1 each for pots up to 12". Three plants or one large tub will be repotted *free* for members of Friends of the Arboretum (Be sure to bring your membership card). Ailing plants will be sprayed for 50¢ each (3 plants sprayed *free* for Members).

At the other side of the Arboretum grounds on the Sharon Turnpike, the Cary Gift Shop in the Gifford House will be officially opened that day also. Numerous items, from art work to T-shirts, will be on sale. A general plant sale will be featured, offering a wide range of unusual plants just in time

for Mother's Day. The Gifford House will be open from 10:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. Come and spend a day at the Arboretum's Spring Thing!

Note: After the official opening on May 13th, the Cary Gift Shop will be open daily, Wednesdays through Sundays, from 1:30 to 4:30 P.M.

New phone number for
Arboretum Administration and Research
677-5343

The Cary Library- Something New Under The Sun

By Fred Strum, Cary Arboretum Librarian

After four moves and extensive planning, the Cary Arboretum Library is now in its permanent solar-heated home.

Occupying its place in the newly completed Plant Science Building, the Library is a unique literature resource for all of Dutchess County and nearby areas, supplying information on a wide range of environmental subjects from alternative energy sources to horticulture.

The development of the Cary Arboretum Library, a branch of the New York Botanical Garden Library, began in 1972 under the supervision of Charles R. Long, Administrative Librarian, and John Reed, Director of Education Services. Originally, the Library was located in one room on the second floor of a renovated farmhouse, which was also temporarily used as the Administration Building on Fowler Road. Soon a second room was added to the Library for expansion of its collection. After two years and significant expansion of literature, the two rooms used as the Library became inadequate to house this broadened collection.

In the autumn of 1974, the Cary Library moved to the "attic" of the Education and Wildlife Building on Fowler Road. This upstairs library grew quietly but steadily into a significant public resource.

In its new quarters on the lower level of the Plant Science Building on the Sharon Turnpike, the Library's capacity is 17,500 volumes and 18 vertical file banks occupying approximately 5,250 square feet, compared to 1,000 square feet in the Education and Wildlife Building.

The new Library quarters, which look out on the terraced courtyard of the Plant Science Building, contain ample shelf and file space, carrels for readers, offices for the Librarian and an assistant, and work space for book repair, cataloguing, and so forth.

The Library's new quarters were planned by the joint efforts of Malcolm Wells, Architect; Daniel F. Brown, Construction Coordinator; Interspace, Inc., an interior design consultant; the Cary Arboretum Librarian; and Charles R. Long, Administrative Librarian, who wrote the service program. The combination of these efforts now is represented by an attractive and functional interior design, part of the efficient utilization of space which characterizes the Building.

The Library is now open to the public five days a week. Visitors may use the Library as a reference collection. Books do not circulate with the exception of a Circulating Collection of horticulture books now being formed, which will be available on loan to Friends of the Cary Arboretum. The Arboretum Librarian and Mary Blankenburg, Library Associate, will assist the public in using the resources of the collection.

Subject areas covered by the Cary Arboretum Library reflect the Arboretum's broad concerns in education and research. The basic collection covers botany with special emphasis on woody plants. In addition, the Library has one of the most comprehensive environmental science collections in the Southeastern Tier area. This important collection serves as a



Librarian Fred Strum assists Barbara Phelps (left) and Carol Young (right) in finding research information shortly before Library moved to new quarters.

literature resource for scientists, laymen, students, and instructors conducting research to improve the environment.

This interest in the environment has branched out into many categories. On the subject of alternative energy sources, the Library has established a comprehensive collection of information on solar energy, biofuel (methane), wind power, small scale water power projects, and wood power. Other subjects emphasized are forestry, dendrology, horticulture, and ecology.

The Cary Arboretum Library is developing into an environmental resource literature center for not only Dutchess County, but for Columbia, Putnam, Orange, Ulster, Rockland, Greene, and Sullivan Counties as well. Central Hudson Gas and Electric Company evaluated the Library's collection and was so impressed that it became a Corporate Member of the Library.

As an associate member of the Southeastern New York Library Resource Council, the Cary Library has access to the libraries in the Southeastern Regional Library District of the State of New York and the New York State Interlibrary Loan Network. Interlibrary loan requests are sent to librarians across the country and to England in the effort to locate a book or serial needed by a staff member or other user. However, the most important supplementary source of books and serials requested by the Cary Arboretum staff members is the New York Botanical Garden Library, whose collection exceeds 400,000 items.

In conducting computerized literature searches, a computer terminal is used to communicate with the different data banks (indexes and abstracts transcribed on computer tapes) as far as away as Rome, Italy.

We cordially invite the public at large to use the Arboretum Library—a new educational resource for New York State.

Donations of books are being sought for the circulating library that is being established for the use of Friends of the Cary Arboretum. The Arboretum is making available a substantial number of books from its own collection for this lending library, but more books are needed to help round out the collection.

If you have any books to donate in the fields of horticulture, applied botany, ecology, or environmental subjects, they would be welcome.

People at the Arboretum



RALPH ELLIOT, Operations Department: A true Cary "pioneer", Ralph joined the staff in 1971, and was one of a crew of six who helped build the internal road system . . . He fondly remembers those early days, when he had to hike to the construction site in the woods, carrying tools and his lunch: "We worked in the pouring rain and the freezing snow, but I never got sick . . . when you stay out there all day with the same people, you grow to like them."

Originally from Westchester County, Ralph worked for 20 years for a chemical company, then he joined the staff of Dutchess County's Farm and Home Center before coming to the Arboretum. He now lives in Pine Plains, where he built his home in 1958. He has been married for a span of 28 years, and has a son Glenn, who worked at the Arboretum on a part-time basis . . . His daughter Gayle, is married and lives in Kent, N.Y. . . . Ralph's spare-time interests include golf, gardening, hunting and fishing.

Around the Arboretum

Pine Voles Get "Culture" From Cary

Apple growers throughout the Hudson Valley are talking a lot these days about a chemical called endrin. Until now, this controversial pesticide has been the principal means of eliminating harmful rodents such as pine voles in local apple orchards. But recent research here reveals that the use of such pesticides is not the only way to contend with this rodent damage.

The Cary Arboretum wildlife experts have found that pine voles, those destructive mouse-like rodents, can be controlled without the use of pesticides through a practice called "Cultural Management". The term is an all-inclusive one, and covers methods such as altering vegetation, encouraging natural predators, and shifting to different mowing practices. Use of these practices has proven effective in tests on young trees recently planted on Arboretum grounds. A group of seven Ulster and Dutchess County apple growers has been sufficiently impressed by the results to vote funds for one year of on-site research in the apple orchards by the Arboretum's Wildlife Department staff. The professional orchardists hope that through this study, they ultimately will win the seemingly hopeless battle against pine vole destruction.

This will be a hard battle to win, but the orchardists are optimistic, and understandably so. They have a lot at stake. The amount of apples produced right here in the Hudson Valley is second only to the output of the state of Washington, the country's largest apple-producing state. The estimated value of the annual production of our local orchards is 25 million dollars.

Monetary losses attributed to pine voles who feed so voraciously on the roots and the outer portions of the trees is between 3 and 4 million dollars annually in Ulster and Dutchess counties alone. Although endrin helped considerably to eliminate the problem, it also was found to be detrimental to other less harmful local wildlife, as well as to the water supply in neighboring orchard areas.

Arboretum researchers believe it is much safer — and just as dependable — to use good management practices in controlling this rodent instead of using highly toxic pesticides such as endrin. In a recent progress report entitled "Small Mammal Damage Control", Jay McAninch, Wildlife Biologist, states that changes in the types of vegetation in different areas have produced dramatic changes in vole population. For example, a large percentage of voles were frequently found in fields containing timothy, goldenrod, and plantain that had been mowed, leaving the residual debris behind. In contrast, voles were seldom found in areas where ground cover consisted of blackberry, dewberry, and bluestem grass. It was even discovered that certain vegetation can be used to attract short-tailed weasels, whose diets consist of 98.1 percent voles. This is cultural management effectively at work.

Mr. McAninch also suggests that when and where practical, haying of open fields is perhaps the best vole-control technique. Mowing methods that leave little or no ground litter can make life fairly difficult

for these destructive little creatures, and depending on various conditions, particularly rainfall, mowing at least once every four weeks is advisable.

In addition to the on-site orchard study, the Wildlife Department will continue to monitor voles on the Arboretum's 2,000 acres, and to experiment with various types of mowing equipment. Another major objective is to determine the cost-benefit ratios of small-mammal control options. In the meantime, help is definitely on the way for the apple growers of Dutchess and Ulster Counties.

Dr. Karnosky Receives Forestry Grant

Dr. David Karnosky, Forest Geneticist, has recently received a two-year grant for a continuation of his study of air-pollution tolerance in trees.

The grant will fund a program designed to screen populations of red maple (*Acer rubrum*), Norway maple, (*Acer platanoids*), white ash (*Fraxinus americana*), and green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*) in an air-pollution chamber set up at the Cary Arboretum's Greenhouse.

In the first phase of this project Dr. Karnosky worked in conjunction with the U.S. Forest Service and Penn State University to acquire some 2,000 green ash and 1,000 white ash seedlings from 25 different locations across the range of these two species, including Alabama, Illinois, Maine, Mississippi, Nebraska, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Wisconsin, and Manitoba, Canada.

The present grant will support the research until April, 1980. The title of the grant is "Progeny Tests of Air-Pollution Tolerance in *Acer* and *Fraxinus*."

Dr. Elias to Royal Botanic Garden

Dr. Thomas Elias, Assistant Director, will be a speaker at the International Legume Conference to be held on July 24 through August 4 at the Royal Botanic Garden in London.

The conference, which has been in the planning for four years, features guest speakers from around the world who will discuss a wide range of scientific subjects concerning the Leguminosae family, which includes vegetable garden string beans and peas, farmer's cover-crops of alfalfa and clover, lentils, lima beans, and navy beans. The Legume family is one of the largest and economically one of the most important food suppliers in the plant world.

Furniture Needed for Students

Contributions of furniture are needed for Horticulture students who will be studying and living at the Arboretum beginning this summer.

Donations of small dressers or bureaus, chairs, desks, twin size beds, and mattresses would be greatly appreciated.

Furniture pick-up will be provided. Please contact Ms. Carol Young, 677-5343.

State Funds for Plant Science Building

The Cary Arboretum has received a second substantial government grant toward defraying expenses of installing solar heating in its Plant Science Building.

The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) has signed an agreement with the Arboretum in the amount of \$76,421 for use in combination with previous funding from the U. S. Department of Energy (DOE), which granted \$122,200 last May.

The generous state contribution is on a cost-sharing basis with DOE and the Arboretum. Its purpose is to reduce the risks involved in pioneering the field of solar energy, and to encourage commercial applications through solar energy demonstration projects of this kind.

The money will be used primarily for the solar collector supports and for revisions to the heat storage tanks.

Third Wood Furnace Installed

The Arboretum's third woodburning boiler has been installed in the Leland Lovelace house on Fowler Road, which was formerly the Education Building.

According to Winfried Schubert, Coordinator of Operations, approximately 2,800 gallons of oil per year are expected to be saved by using this heating method in the Leland Lovelace building alone.

Two other woodburners were previously installed last Fall in the maintenance barn and the Armand Lovelace residence. They worked so successfully and economically during this past long and hard winter, that eventually as finances permit, other such boilers will be installed in additional buildings throughout the Arboretum grounds, both for economic as well as environmental considerations.

Mr. Schubert estimates that the initial investment in each woodburner will be recouped within three years.

Flower Garden Course Rescheduled

The three-hour "hands-on" instruction in "Preparing and Planting Your Herbaceous Flower Garden," originally scheduled for Thursday, April 27th, will now be held on Thursday, June 1 from 1:00 to 4:00 P.M. at the Gifford House.

The course which will include plant and seed selection, garden layout, and the planting of flower beds will be taught by Alex Pearl of the Arboretum horticultural staff.

Robert Hebb to Tour Scotland

Robert Hebb, Horticulturist, will lead a group of 25 members of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society to Scotland May 20-30.

The trip consists of tours to some of the most famous Scottish gardens, including Inverewe Gardens, Brodick Castle in Androssan, the Royal Botanical Garden in Edinburgh, and many other historical and horticultural points of interest to garden lovers.

Watercolor Exhibit Begins May 21

The Arboretum's Gifford House will feature a collection of 40 watercolor paintings by local artist Marge Wheeler, beginning May 21st.

Mrs. Wheeler, who has been an art teacher in the Rhinebeck Central School District for 12 years, has completed her master credits in art at S.U.N.Y. New Paltz. She previously studied at the International School in Pakistan for two years.

This will mark the first time that Mrs. Wheeler has exhibited her work in Millbrook.

Since all of her paintings consist of landscapes and nature studies, the Arboretum is a most appropriate sponsor for this very talented artist.

The paintings will be exhibited through June 21st at the Gifford House on the Sharon Turnpike. All of the art work will be for sale. Exhibit hours: 1:30 - 4:30, Wednesdays through Sundays.



Artist Marge Wheeler with one of her watercolors.

"Music at the Arboretum"

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located behind Gifford House, the Arboretum's Education and Visitor Center, on Sharon Turnpike.

Selections for the first concert include Handel's "Water Music," two compositions by Delius evoking spring and summer moods, Ives' "Unanswered Question," and familiar selections from Strauss, Joplin, and other composers.

At the second concert, June 11, the Renart Trio (cello, violin, and piano) will offer a piano trio by Ravel and one by Schubert. The third concert, July 9, will be performed by the Filigree Chamber Group (harp, flute, and viola) and will present works by Bach, Enesco, Faure, Doppler, Chou Wen-Chung, and Debussy. The series concludes July 30 with a performance by the Hudson Valley Brass Quintet, composed of two trumpets, French horn, trombone, and tuba, playing short pieces for these instruments by ten different composers.

All concerts begin at 4:00 p.m. In case of rain, the May 28 concert will take place on May 29 at 7:00 p.m.; the three other concerts will be performed in the Arboretum's Plant Science Building, Sharon Turnpike, at the scheduled dates and times.

Tickets to the series of four concerts cost \$25.00 for Arboretum members, \$30.00 to nonmembers. Tickets for individual concerts in the series, when purchased by members, are \$7.00 for the May 28 performance and \$6.75 each to the three others; non-members pay \$8.50 for the first concert and \$8.00 apiece for the others.

Series subscribers receive ticket priority.

Tickets for all performances are available at the Arboretum Gift Shop in the Gifford House, telephone 677-5358. Tickets for the full series and the May 28 concert can be purchased at the Mid-Hudson Civic Center, Poughkeepsie, and Corner News Store, Millbrook. Tickets may also be ordered by writing to "Music at the Arboretum," Box AB, Millbrook, New York 12545.

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